

Matthew 5:17-20

Application Questions

1. Describe your life experience with “rules” (both biblical and from people). How has this affected your relationship with God?
2. Define the extremes of *legalism* and *antinomianism* (feel free to look them up in the dictionary). Where do you lie on the spectrum? Why? What are a couple of your “non-negotiable” rules?
3. Name all the ways you can think of that Jesus has fulfilled the Law and the Prophets. Read Isaiah 53. What does this add to your understanding?
4. The moral commandments of the Old Testament include loving God, loving your neighbor and keeping the Ten Commandments (with the exception of the Sabbath). Other laws are either ceremonial or governed the sacrificial system of worship. How are you doing at keeping and teaching the moral commandments of the Old Testament (v. 19)?
5. How was the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees insufficient? Explain how we can have a righteousness that exceeds the righteousness of the Pharisees and grants our entry into the kingdom of heaven. Are you trusting fully in this righteousness? What comfort does Jude 24-25 bring you?